

The Weathervane



RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, United Church of Christ Newsletter

October, 2022

Table of Contents Page

From the Pastor.....	1
This Month at RVCC	2
Prayer Concerns	2
October Lectionary Lessons....	2
RVCC Family	2
Missions Corner.....	3
Worship Updates.....	4
Knitting Group.....	4
Line Dancing Returns.....	4
Hannaford Grocery Cards	4
October Birthdays!.....	4
Neighbors in Need.....	4
Love Ya Craig	5
Guest Article	5
Who Are We – RVCC?	6
COVID Vaccine Clinic.....	6

From the Pastor . . .

As you may know, Pastor Petra is in Germany tending to her Mother's affairs, through the end of September. Caryl Gilman has written the pastor column this month.

It is with **great joy** that we will welcome back Pastor Petra on Sunday October 2nd. I am happy she will return to us as I've missed her. As we welcome her home, we also need to understand that she and her family are navigating toward a new norm without her mom. We must continue to keep them all in our prayers.

I know from personal experience that, when my parents both passed away, my siblings and I felt the "hole" they left and realized **we** were now the "senior" generation for the family. How could that be?

My siblings and I felt anything from sad/uncomfortable to terribly distraught or distressed within days or minutes. We all privately dealt with death in our own way. We also learned that there is no timeline or "normal" way to grieve.

Whenever I cross paths with grief, it feels like something I stumble through hoping to do the best I can for myself and others. The Bible does have some help:

First Thessalonians 4:13-14 says

¹³ Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴ For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

Psalms 147:3 says, "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."

I try to remember this saying "God does not leave his children in the depths of sorrow. Joy comes eventually, and it comes in God's timing." To me this means, hugs for Petra when she returns and, over time, asking if there is anything I can do. In addition, like checking in to say "Hi".

The Weathervane is published monthly for distribution at the first of each month. Articles may be submitted as paper copy, electronically via disk or email by the 15th of each month preceding the issue for it to be included in. Computer files should be submitted as MSWord (.doc) or rich text format (.rtf). If you have any questions contact Debbie Feagans or Judy Munson. Articles can be dropped off at the church office, mailed or emailed to: Raymond Village Community Church, PO Box 285, Raymond, ME 04071- office@rvccme.org or to Judy Munson, 23 Lawn Ave., Gorham, ME 04038 – communson24@yahoo.com – Thank you for reading our newsletter!

This Month at RVCC . . .

October 2, 2022-	10:00 a.m. – Worship with Rev. Jonna Jensen and Pastor Petra
October 6, 2022-	4:30 p.m. - Deacon's meeting (in Vestry)
October 9, 2022-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
October 10, 2022-	4:00 p.m. - Council meeting on Zoom
October 16, 2022-	10:00 a.m. - Worship
October 23, 2022-	10:00 a.m. – Worship
October 30, 2022-	10:00 a.m. – Worship

If you are unable to join us in person, services may be viewed on our YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc1hBkBTarnZF-H4O7YN5ew>

Line Dancing will be on Thursdays and Fridays from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.. Fridays are a low impact class.

Scout Troop 800 meets on Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

The Knitting Group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month (October 11th and October 25th) from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

AA meets in the Vestry every Friday at 7:00 p.m.



Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Amanda, Michael Cadotte, Louise Doyle, Polly Dyer, Christine Eldridge, Linda Eldridge, Rick Emery, Christine Horwath, Nate Rand, Charlotte Rowe, Petra Smyth, The family of Penny Warrikoff.

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October Lectionary Lessons

October 2, 2022 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Lamentations 1:1-6
Lamentations 3:19-26 or *Psalm 137*
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Psalm 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

October 9, 2022 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Psalm 66:1-12
2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c
Psalm 111
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

October 16, 2022 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104
Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 121
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

October 23, 2022 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
Sirach 35:12-17 or *Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22*
Psalm 84:1-7
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

October 30, 2022 – Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Psalm 119:137-144
Isaiah 1:10-18
Psalm 32:1-7
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10

RVCC Family...

As you know Petra has, this last month, been in Germany getting her mom's affairs in order. Join me as we proudly welcome her back to the pulpit on October 2nd. Until then, we will continue to have Reverend Alli Curry for pastoral emergencies, you can contact a Deacon or Rev. Curry directly at Allisoncurry43@gmail.com and 207-730-3287 which is good for texting as well. Additionally on behalf of all RVCC members I would like to thank Reverend Joanne Painter for leading us in worship during this time. -Sincerely, Thomas L. Wiley – Moderator

MISSIONS CORNER

Gregoire House – New picture

September has been a month of planning and scheduling. The shingles should go on the roof soon. The deck enclosure has been ordered and will take weeks to arrive.



Missions: mid-October through mid-November – Seafarer’s Friend

The mission at Seafarer's Friend is to extend the ministry of the churches to meet the unmet spiritual, social and practical needs of seafarers in the New England Maritime Community. They engage seafarers, their families and community by visiting aboard ships, welcoming and hosting seafarers ashore and being attentive to their needs, including ways to contact home, a clean and safe place to relax offshore, transportation to shopping centers, as well as social, educational and recreational activities. They also provide Ditty Bags = a bag full of personal items.

Many thanks to Sarah Allen, who has prepared the bags for the items!

We participated in this ministry about a year ago and I (Caryl) learned a lot about collecting items. Last year I ended up with a lot of toothbrushes and toothpaste but none of other items. Yet, each ditty bag we turn in must have all the items listed below. Given that we plan to fill 12 ditty bags maximum, I ask that you select from the list below the items you plan to bring in and let me know – either by email carylgilman@gmail.com or phone 627-5073 or by writing on the list in the back of the church. This list at church will “keep score” of what is planned to come in. Thank you!

DITTY BAG ITEMS

Razors	Travel sized Shave cream/gel	Floss
Toothpaste	Toothbrush (1)	Travel sized Kleenex
Playing cards	Mending kits	Shoelaces
Deodorant	Shampoo (8 oz. size bottle)	Travel-size first aid kit
Nail clippers	Soap/body wash (8 oz. size bottle)	Small writing pad
Puzzle Books	1-2 pens or pencils	Socks, 2 pair/bag

Worship Updates

Sunday October 2nd: Welcome Rev Jonna Jensen and WELCOME BACK Petra! World Communion Sunday and Neighbors in Need offering!

A great way to welcome Petra back is to have the Maine Conference Transitional minister, Rev Jonna Jensen, lead us in worship and communion. ***How can you welcome Rev Jonna and welcome Pastor Petra back? Please attend worship on October 2nd and, after worship, join together with Petra and Jonna for bread, soup and fellowship on World Communion Sunday***

October 2nd is World Communion Sunday, celebrated by Christians around the world. It is a day to remember that Jesus Christ is the head of every Christian Church and all churches of any denomination that promotes Christian unity are one.

KNITTING & CROCHETING GROUP

The knitting & crocheting group has been making squares for the past few months and now we are switching gears to hats and mittens. These are easy and fast and a good way to use some of those odd remnants. We have yarn and some patterns. You are welcome to join us for our group meetings if you would like some instruction or assistance.

We are meeting inside in the Sunday School room next to the furnace room but we will meet outside as the weather permits. For those of you who are comfortable in doing so, please join us on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Please let me know if you need anything or would like to help. Thanks! Brenda (bolsen001@maine.rr.com) or 207-838-0123.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We wish everyone with a October birthday a very Happy Birthday!

October 1	Rolf Olsen
October 3	Brenda Olsen
October 4	Lori Lambert
October 12	Martha Morrison
October 17	Bonnie Wiley
October 27	Cora Sullivan

LINE DANCING RESUMES!

Line dancing has been on a brief break due to illness. Classes will resume on September 8, 2022 in the vestry at the Raymond Village Community Church. There will be 2 classes each week, Advanced Beginner to Low Intermediate on Thursdays from 10 to 11:30, and a Beginner/Low Impact class on Fridays, from 10 to 11:30. We have small classes, and lots of fun!! If you have ever wanted to try line dancing this is the place and the time. Line Dancing is great exercise for the body and the mind. We are a fun and loving group of people. Our classes are ongoing, so join us whenever you can. We welcome new dancers at any time. Masks are not required, but use at your own discretion. Cost is \$5.00 per class.

For more information, contact instructor Rachel Knights at rachelscountryhearts@yahoo.com, or call 207-232-1172 (cell) or 207-655-4284 (land).

HANNAFORD GROCERY CARDS

We have Hannaford shopping cards available for purchase in denominations of \$100 and \$50. Every \$100 you purchase means RVCC gets \$5. You buy the card for \$100, you buy \$100 worth of groceries and RVCC gets \$5!!! How great is that? I am available to get cards to you. Just send me an e-mail (bolsen001@maine.rr.com) or give me a call (207-838-0123). Thanks! Brenda

Neighbors in Need

Along with most UCC churches, we will be receiving our Neighbors in Need offering on October 2nd, as part of our observance of World Communion Sunday. Neighbors in Need supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Much continues to change in the world since last years NIN offering. Justice issues have been laid bare, including women's rights, inflation, and gun laws. This year's Neighbors in Need offering is even more critical. If you are in church, you may place your offering for NIN in the offering basket at the back of the church, make sure you write NIN on the memo line of your check. If you are not in church, you can send your NIN offering to RVCC, P.O. Box 285, Raymond, ME 04071.

WE LOVE YA' CRAIG!!



THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK AND MAKING OUR TAKEOUT POT ROAST SUPPERS A SUCCESS!!

A Guest Article . . .

I have been visiting Raymond from Marshalltown, Iowa, and have enjoyed spending a couple of Thursdays in the office with my sister Lori. Lori has told me of the many mission activities your church undertakes throughout the year. How wonderful that you use your facilities in this way. I even got to sample your wonderful pot roast dinner, twice. I have also been told your knitting group is making mittens to be distributed to those in need at the holidays. Your church has taken the words, "It is more blessed to give, than to receive," to heart.

I am, at the time of this Weathervane publication, back in Marshalltown, and back at work, in the newsroom of the radio station I've worked for since 1977. I will be thinking of you, and praying for the church, for the rest of this year, and into the future.

Be well,
Mike Lindell



Raymond Village Community Church

27 Main Street, P.O. Box 285,
Raymond, ME 04071
(207) 655-7749

Who are we? – Raymond Village Community Church

If someone asked you – who is Raymond Village Community Church, what would you say? As we look to the future of RVCC, the Council talked about having a common statement about who we are as a starting point. A small group of 3 parishioners has been working with Petra to develop a statement for your review and discussion, as we are all in this together. Here is the statement for your review. The group plans to ask for your rating on each of the 5 components (don't agree to strongly agree) starting in October. We hope this statement will start conversations regarding our future.

- *We are a community minded fixture in Raymond, with an eye on people*
- *We are mission minded, generous in our outreach*
- *We welcome new and existing congregants as they enter the church and we offer an opportunity for conversation during the coffee hour after worship.*
- *We have a beautiful sanctuary and offer high quality music during worship*
- *We have clean restrooms . . . showing we care about visitors!*

Friends,

Windham Hill UCC will be sponsoring a

Covid Vaccination Clinic on 9-28-22.

The updated Omicron booster shots (COVID-19 Bivalent booster) will be available at this clinic along with the Flu shots. If it has been at least two months since your initial series of booster shots were completed, you are eligible for the next one.

Blessings and Be Well, **Sharon**

Rev. Sharon L. Rankin
Windham Hill United Church of Christ
140 Windham Center Road - Windham, Maine 04062
Tel. # 207-892-4217